

I claim:

1. A portable computer-display unit with a cover assembly hinged at one edge and adapted to a clamshell-like notebook structure for conventional computing and wireless data communications to external wide area communication networks, wherein the computer-display unit is made relatively thin and light weight so that users have the option of carrying it under his/her's arm for long periods of time, the portable computer-display unit comprising of:
 - a. a flat panel display assembly having a flat panel display device, microcomputer system means, support electronics and assembly housing;
 - b. expandable hinge means attached at one edge of the flat panel display assembly housing;
 - c. a cover assembly roughly the same size of the flat panel display assembly, attached at the opposite edge of the expandable hinge means; and
 - d. said expandable hinge means adapted so that users can place relatively thin flat objects between the flat panel display assembly and the cover assembly, wherein the expandable hinge means will expand to accommodate to the thickness of said thin flat objects.
2. A portable computer-display unit of Claim 1, in which the expandable hinge means is adapted for relatively large rotations of the cover assembly and display assembly, wherein the user has the option to rotate the two assemblies nearly 360 degrees with respect to each other, so that the inside surfaces of the clamshell-like computer-display unit becomes the outside surfaces, and the computer-display unit can be placed on end for near vertical display panel viewing.
3. A portable computer-display unit of Claim 1, further comprising wireless communications means electrically interfaced to the microcomputer system means located inside the flat panel display assembly housing, wherein the computer-display unit is adapted for bi-directional voice, text, graphic and image data communications to and from external wide area communication networks.
4. A portable computer-display unit of Claim 1, in which the flat panel display assembly and expandable hinge means are adapted for quick dis-attachment from each other, and also adapted for quick re-attachment, at options of the user.
5. A portable wireless communication system including a microcomputer system to be operated by a user for voice and data communications to and from external wide area communications networks, the wireless communications systems comprising of:
 - a. means for base unit wireless communications, comprised of a microprocessor, transceiver and flat panel display, wherein the electrical power of the basic unit means is sufficient to communicate with external wide area communications networks;

b. means for handset communications adapted to communicate with the base unit wireless communication means, via electromagnetic radiation means, wherein electrical power of the handset unit is substantially less than the power the base unit means;

c. the said base unit performing a communications in a bi-directional manner, relaying data between the handset means and the wide area network, wherein the lower power handset is normally placed next to the user's ear during voice communications, but the user has the option to place the higher power base unit several feet away from the user, such as in the same or nearby room.

6. A portable wireless communication system of Claim 5, in which the means for handset communications is replaced by means for earset communications for lighter weight and hand free operations by the user.

7. A portable wireless communication system of Claim 5, in which the user has the option to switch the electrical power level of the handset means to either high power levels for communications directly with the wide area communications network, or switch to lower power levels for communications to the base unit means.

8. A method for portable computing and wireless communicating of voice and data to and from external wide area wireless communications networks, the method comprising the steps of:

a. transmitting data means to external wide area wireless communications networks from a portable base unit means, comprised of microcomputer means, wireless transceiver and flat panel display, via electromagnetic radiation means, wherein the electrical power of the portable basic unit means is sufficient to communicate with wide area wireless communications networks;

b. receiving data from a wide area wireless communications network to the base unit means, via electromagnetic radiation means, wherein the electrical power of the basic unit means is sufficient to communicate with wide area wireless communications networks;

c. transmitting data to a handset unit from the base unit means via electromagnetic radiation means, wherein the power of the handset unit is substantially less than the power of the base unit means;

d. receiving data from the handset unit to the base unit means via electromagnetic radiation means, wherein power of the handset unit is substantially less than the power of the base unit means; and

e. said base unit performing bi-directional relay communication functions between the handset unit and wide area wireless communications networks.

9. A method for portable computing and wireless communicating of Claim 8, in which the user has the option to execute a plurality of application programs on the microcomputer means,

typically including telephony programs, personal productivity programs, e-mail programs, voice mail programs, Internet programs and other conventional PC programs.

10. A method for portable computing and wireless communicating of Claim 9, in which execution of the application programs, voice communications operations and data communications operations are performed on time shared basis, so that the user has the option to perform a plurality of communication and computing tasks, roughly simultaneously.

11. A portable system for conventional computing and data communications to and from external wide area communications networks, wherein the system is made modular and is adapted for quick disassembly and quick re-assembly by a user, the portable system comprising of:

- a. a base unit assembly having a display device, microprocessor system means, support electronics and assembly housing,
- b. a second unit having multiple sections including a keyboard unit, battery power source and support electronics;
- c. means for external data communications, including RF transceiver means interfaced to the microcomputer system means, which controls wireless RF communications to and from external wide area communications networks; and
- d. said base unit and second unit sections adapted for quick disassembly and re-assembly means, wherein the user has the option to configure the portable system to a plurality of configurations, including portable configurations or desktop configurations.

12. A portable system of Claim 11, in which the quick disassembly and re-assembly means are comprised of finger push tabs that the user has the option to press to release latching means located at the mating edge of the base unit and the mating edge of the second unit sections.

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D4

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C3

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H10

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K1